



HISTORIC SALISBURY  
FOUNDATION, INC.

SAVING OUR HISTORY. EXPANDING OUR FUTURE.

Books to Recommend:

1. Rowan County... a brief history by James S. Brawley
2. The Rowan Story by James Brawley
3. Piedmont Passages by George Raynor (Vol. 107)
4. The History of Rowan County by Jethro Rumble
5. Stoneman's Raid by Chris Hartley
6. The Salisbury Prison by Louis A. Brown (1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> editions)
7. Dr. Josephus Wells Hall: A Man of Energy and Enterprise by Sara Aull & Mary Brandon
8. The Captive by Annette Gee Ford
9. Shades of Gray by Carolyn Reeder
10. Tall Grey Gates by Theresa Thomas
11. This Was Home by Hope Summerell Chamberlain
12. Rhinelanders on the Yadkin by Carl Hammer, Jr.
13. Rowan County Library History Room materials – Family, local, war information
14. The Architecture of Rowan County by Davyd Foard Hood
15. A Treasury of Carolina Tales by Webb Garrison
16. A Treasury of Foolishly Forgotten Americans by Michael Farquare

# Rowan County Info Challenge

Over 250 years of history questions for the Rowan County History Class  
Here are 53 questions for you to ponder during the class.

1. Name several early Native American tribes that lived in the Yadkin Valley.
2. What famous road brought many settlers to the Yadkin Valley?
3. What were the two most influential European groups in the valley?
4. Rowan County was named for \_\_\_\_\_ and his official title was \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Rowan County was formed in (year) \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Name 3 early churches established in Rowan County.
7. Who was the famous settler (near modern China Grove), leader, "Indian" fighter and Revolutionary War hero?
8. The settlement first called Rowan Courthouse became known as \_\_\_\_\_ in 1755.
9. This legendary hero lived and traded in Salisbury and opened the land of Kentucky.
10. Why is the Old Stone House still important to our history?
11. Describe the major events that took place in Rowan County during the American Revolution.

12. This young man studied law in Salisbury and later became the 7<sup>th</sup> president of the U.S.
13. There is more than one Mount Vernon. What is important about the one in Rowan County?
14. What was the main building on the square from 1823-1907?
15. Name several newspapers that recorded the events of Rowan County.
16. What local natural resource created quite a rush in the early-mid 1800's?
17. What is the story behind the "mystery" grave at Third Creek Presbyterian?
18. In the late 1840's what event changed the lives of many children in Rowan County?
19. This N.C. governor was from Rowan County and is now buried here.
20. What was the main feature of the C.S.A. located here during the Civil War?
21. Describe several major events that happen here during the Civil War.
22. Why does Salisbury have a National Cemetery?
23. This building was built in the 1850's, survived Stoneman and now houses what museum?
24. Name the major theater that entertained citizens between 1872 and 1905.
25. Why was Dr. J.C. Price so important to the history of Salisbury?

26. Who was known as Rowan County's first real historian? He wrote *A History of Rowan County*.
27. Describe the history of railroads in Rowan County.
28. The first RFD left from this town on October 13, 1896.
29. Dr. James E. K. Aggrey had a school named for him in 1933 even though he had died in 1827. Why was he so honored?
30. Name several industries which made major impacts on our economy in the early 1900's?
31. What nickname was given to Salisbury due to the alcohol industry?
32. What operated on the streets of Salisbury from 1905-1938?
33. What events of July-August 1906 shocked the citizens of Rowan County?
34. These two events happened in Rowan in 1908.
35. In 1909 this was added to West Innes Street.
36. The Bamby Bakery was an institution for years in Salisbury. What do the letters BAMBY mean?
37. Name the circus that wintered in Salisbury from 1910-1919. Name their famous elephant and tell what happened to her in Tennessee.
38. This public service was started in 1911. It now houses much of the history of Rowan County.
39. What famous actor once called Salisbury home?

40. These names, Hurley and Fisher have been important to Salisbury and Rowan County for years. Why?
41. What soft drink was developed (1917), bottled and sold in Salisbury?
42. This industry saw a huge boom for Rowan County in the 1920's.
43. This company started in Salisbury around 1924 so you could "Snap Back with \_\_\_\_\_."
44. Name this famous photographer of Salisbury.
45. Where and why is there an area called "Dukeville?"
46. What famous criminal was killed on the streets of Salisbury New Year's Eve-1930?
47. The C.C.C. set up camp in Rowan County. Where was the camp?
48. What's the story behind the tallest building in Salisbury?
49. What disease caused the citizens great alarm in the 1930's-1950's?
50. When were the Rowan Museum Inc. and Historic Salisbury Foundation created?
51. In 1957 this food store opened and later claimed "LFPINC."
52. What major storm ripped through Rowan County in 1989?
53. Name 5 major events or persons of importance and their impact on Rowan County since 1990.

In my opinion the 5 greatest events to affect the history of Rowan County have been ..... and here's why.

A brief non-formal Bibliography of Native Americans:

Class Session 1- Rowan County History

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Harriss, Frances Lathan, ed. *Lawson's History of North Carolina*. 1952, Garrett and Massie, Inc. Richmond Virginia.

Logan, John H, *A History of the Upper Country of South Carolina From the Earliest Periods to the Close of the War of Independence*, Volumes I and II (reprint) 2009, The Reprint Company, Spartanburg SC.

O'Donnell, III. James H., *The Cherokees of North Carolina in the American Revolution*. 1976, Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh NC.

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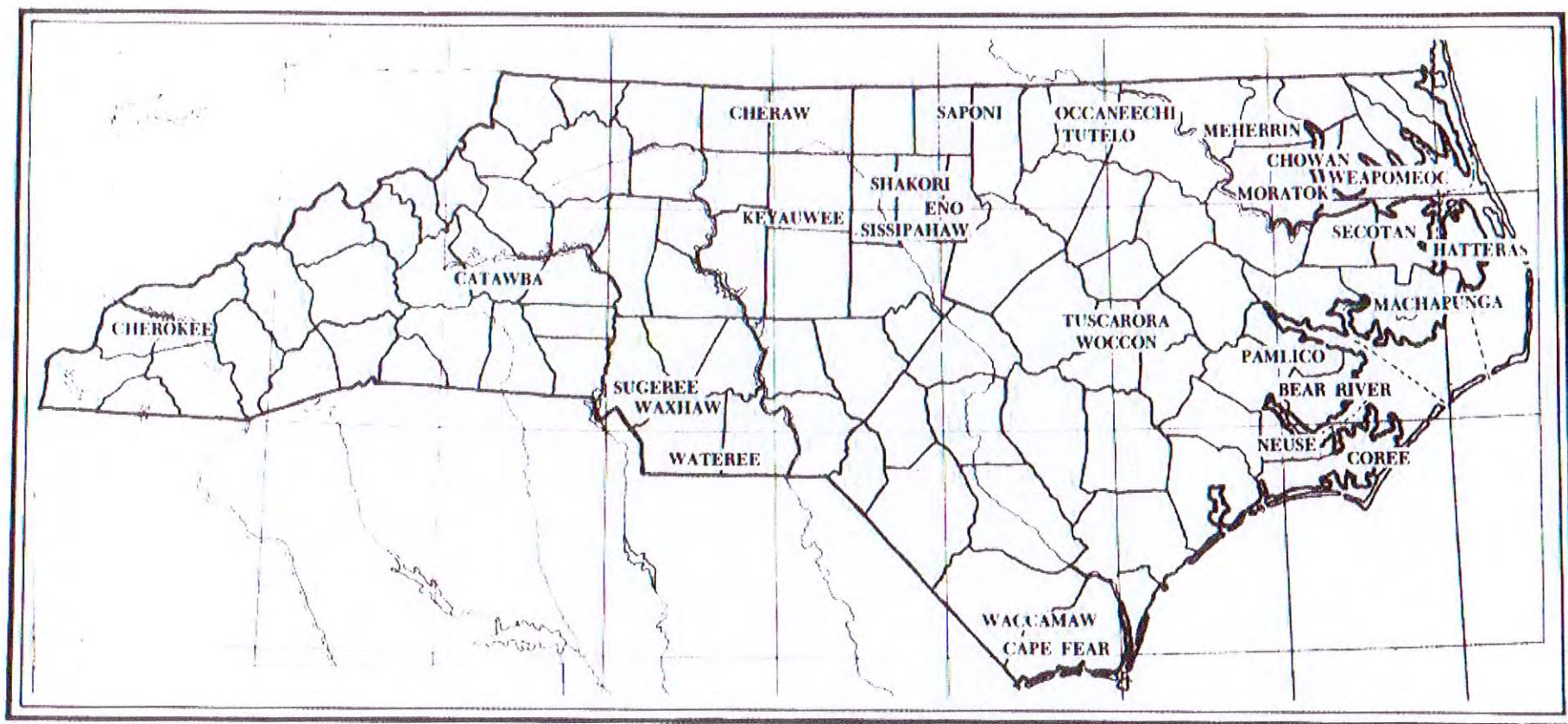
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Simmons, Geitner, *Spanish had many reasons for Pardo expedition*, Salisbury Post article, 8-15-1999.

Simmons, Geirner, *1940s digs uncovered artifacts*, Salisbury Post article 8-22-1999.

Simmons, Geitner, *Spanish empire failed to conquer Southeast*, Salisbury Post article, 8-29-1999.

Wetmore, Ruth Y., *First on the Land: The North Carolina Indians*, 1975, John F. Blair, Winston Salem NC.



This map shows the approximate locations of various Indian groups in North Carolina, 1600-1700, the period of initial European contact. From Ruth Y. Wetmore, *First on the Land: The North Carolina Indians* (Winston-Salem: John F. Blair, 1975), fig. 2; reproduced courtesy John F. Blair.

# Trading Ford Area Historic Timeline

## The Trading Ford on the Yadkin

### HISTORY HAPPENED HERE

The earliest "interstate" through Piedmont North Carolina was the Trading Path from Fort Henry (Petersburg, Va.) to the Catawbas and Waxhaws, so named because it was used by early Europeans who traded with the Native Americans. Its crossings at the Yadkin River were called the Trading Fords. The earliest, the Indian or Old Trading Ford, crossed the Big Island, .8 mile below where Interstate 85 passes over the Yadkin River between Salisbury/Spencer and Lexington, NC. The colonial ferry at the Trading Ford crossed just at the downriver (eastern) tip of the Big Island. The Yadkin could also be forded when the river was low. These two fords and the roads leading to them, together with other nearby fords and ferries, formed a network of early transportation routes, with the Trading Ford and Trading Path as its backbone.

### Trading Ford Area Timeline

- 9500 BC: Native American habitation in the Trading Ford area documented
- 1567-1568: Spanish soldiers under Juan Pardo briefly colonized the area and built Fort Santiago in the Native American Guatari village
- 1670: Explorer John Lederer recorded a visit to Saura Indians at the Trading Ford
- 1674: John Needham reputed to have been murdered at the Trading Ford by his companion Indian John
- 1701: John Lawson recorded a description of the Trading Ford and the Sapona settlement there in his "Journey of a Thousand Miles"
- 1740s: Jersey Settlement colonized on the northern side of the Trading Ford
- 1753: Rowan county formed from part of Anson county
- 1755: Salisbury established as county seat on the Trading Path, six miles from the Trading Ford
- 1755: Hugh McAden, an itinerant preacher, visited the Yadkin Ford, just east of I-85, one of a network of fords and ferries in the Trading Ford area
- 1757: Archibald Craige was granted permission to keep a public ferry at the Trading Ford
- 1763: Road built from Bethabara (present Winston-Salem) to the Yadkin Ford
- 1769: Legislative act established a public ferry at the Trading Ford, and prohibited other ferries within 4 miles for the next decade
- 1771: War of the Regulation. Gen. Hugh Waddell stopped by a large group of Regulators on the north side of the Yadkin River.
- 1780: Revolutionary War. Yadkin Ford ferry documented in military correspondence. Two camps established at the Yadkin Ford.
- 1781: Revolutionary War. General Nathanael Greene's Crossing at the Trading Ford. Major contributing site included in the "Race to the Dan River", given highest national significance by the National Park Service in 2008.
- 1803: Louisiana Purchase. Mail route from Washington, DC to New Orleans crossed the Yadkin at the Trading Ford
- 1818: Louis Beard hired Ithiel Town to build the first bridge over the Yadkin, and North Carolina's first covered bridge.
- 1822: Davidson county formed from part of Rowan county
- 1855: First railroad bridge built over the Yadkin
- 1865: War Between the States. Confederates successfully defended the rail bridge and won their last victory in North Carolina. Battlefield listed as one of the nation's 25 most endangered by the Civil War Preservation Trust in 2008 and 2009.
- 1890: Rail bridge failed, and was quickly replaced
- 1899: Camel-back steel truss Piedmont Toll Bridge built upon original Beard Bridge stone piers
- 1906: New Warren truss rail bridge built beside original bridge location
- 1919: Warren truss bridge to accommodate 2<sup>nd</sup> rail track built upon original granite piers and abutments
- 1922: Open-spandrel Wil-Cox Bridge (southbound US 29) became first free bridge, ending the use of the toll bridge, fords and ferries. Davidson County has made a commitment to preserve NC's longest open-spandrel bridge.
- 1929: Trading Ford Monument dedicated
- 1951: Northbound US 29 bridge built
- 1957: I-85 bridge built

Areas including the Beard Bridge site, both US 29 bridges, both rail bridges, a 0.8 mile section of the Trading Path, Fort York/Camp Yadkin, and the Big Island have been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.



# SALISBURY AND ROWAN COUNTY HISTORY

## TIME LINE

### Week 1

#### Early Colonial Period

[1619 - 1753]

Three siblings of the human family inhabited early colonial North Carolina. Native North Americans inhabited the Carolina colony before the first Europeans or Africans set foot on its soil. The Europeans called the first inhabitants Indians due to common racial features, cultural traits, and distinguishable regional and linguistic variations. The Iroquoian, Siouan, and Algonquian represented three major language groups. The Cherokee, Tuscarora, Meherrin, Coree, and Neuse represented the Iroquoian group. Cherokee territory was the mountainous western boundaries of the colony and the Tuscarora, Meherrin, Coree, and Neuse inhabited the coastal plains. The Siouan occupied the Piedmont region. They were the Cape Fear, Catawba, Cheraw, Eno, Keyauwee, Occaneechi, Saponi, Shakori, Sissipahaw, Sugaree, Tutelo, Waccamaw, Wateree, Waxhaw, and Woccon. The Algonquian populated the southernmost extension of predominantly Northeastern Woodlands in the tidewater area. They were the Bear River, Chowan, Hatteras, Nachapunga, Moratok, Pamlico, Secotan, and Weapomeoc.<sup>1</sup>

Africans called Negroes by Europeans arrived in the colony as immigrant chattel forced into involuntary servitude as property. They shared many West African cultural characteristics and a variety of sable hues that were reflected in the dark skinned race. Many of their ancestors were Akan, Igbo, Oyo, Mande, Dogon, Fulani, Ewe, Serer, Senufo, and Hausa. The Africans and African Americans were separated into groups determined by whether they were born in the colony or the ancestral homelands on the Gulf of Guinea coast. Most Africans and those who became Americans gradually established a non-Eurocentric Christian faith as a cultural and moral compass to replace fading memories of traditional ancestral West African identities. The early colonial period was the beginning of the long transformation of a people who were often initially property in a Eurocentric culture and denied self-determination to citizens who took their rightful place as the subjects of history of a new pluralistic ethos.

The pre-dominant Europeans were English, Ulster and Highland Scots, and Palatinate Germans who were distinguishable by different variations of a Eurocentric Christian faith as well as language and dialects. They were immigrants who were primarily Anglicans, Presbyterians, Lutheran, and Moravians. Many of them were one to two generations removed from refugees of religious, economical, and political persecution in their homelands. The Anglicans dominated the economy, politics, and material assets of the new colony until other religious groups secured their right to self-

## SALISBURY AND ROWAN COUNTY HISTORY TIME LINE [1619 - 1753]

### Page 2

determination and identity as contributors to a new American society.

During the early colonial period and time before the Declaration of Independence, the crown of England governed North Carolina and Rowan County by proxy. A governor or those to whom the territory were granted was appointed by the King. Appointees of the Governor sat in the House of Burgesses or Colonial Assembly and made recommendations that largely served their own interests instead of the well-being and common good of the people. The lack of concern for the ordinary people and the corruption of many appointees contributed to an uprising of Piedmont farmers known as the War of Regulation.

The following international, national, state and local events took place during the formation of colonial Salisbury, Rowan County, and North Carolina between 1619 and 1753:

- 1619** Africans were sold as indentured servants from a Dutch ship in Jamestown, Virginia.
- 1624** The Dutch brought enslaved Africans into New Amsterdam (New York) for the first time.
- 1638** Theophilus Eaton, the first governor of the Connecticut Colony declares his holding of blacks in slavery and would continue doing so "forever or during his pleasure"<sup>2</sup>
- 1641** The Massachusetts Bay Puritans enacted the Code of Fundamentals in which Article 95 gives legal sanction to slavery. <sup>3</sup>
- 1650-1820**  
An area known as the Great Dismal Swamp serves as a haven for runaway slaves. Many slaves flee to the swamp and establish some communities.<sup>4</sup>
- 1650** The first permanent English settlers in North Carolina came from the southeastern Virginia tidewater area. The first "overflow" of these settlers moved into the Albemarle area of northeast North Carolina.<sup>5</sup>
- 1653** September 13, the first slave conspiracy in Colonial America was attempted. A fellow Servant betrayed a plot of White servants and slaves in Gloucester County, VA.<sup>6</sup>
- 1655** The First slave auction was held at New Amsterdam (New York City)
- 1658** Black Slaves, aided by Native Americans, burned their owner's homes in Hartford Connecticut.
- 1663** The discovery of a major slave conspiracy in Fairfax County, Virginia involving slaves and indentured white servants lead to the beheading of the leaders. Plans for the revolt were made at funerals attended by large numbers of slaves. Funerals and gatherings were latter banned by colonial authorities.

## SALISBURY AND ROWAN COUNTY HISTORY TIME LINE [1619 - 1753]

### Page 3

- King Charles II granted the Carolina Colony to eight land proprietors. John Carteret, Baron Carteret of Hawnes later to become Earl Granville was one of the shareowners. <sup>7</sup>
- 1665 King Charles granted forty acres of land to settlers for each slave (servant) brought into the colony that was over 14 years old. <sup>8</sup>
- 1669 John Locke wrote the Fundamental Constitutions as a model for the government of Carolina.
- 1672 Dr. John Lederer encounters the Saura Indians camping at the Trading Ford on the Yadkin River. <sup>9</sup>
- The Royal African Company is established to control the British slave trade and transported an average of 5,000 slaves a year from 1680 to 1686
- 1700 Liverpool's first slave ship, 'Liverpool Merchant' took 220 slaves to Barbados and sold them for £ 4,239 sterling. <sup>10</sup>
- The **Asante** (or Ashante) Empire of Akan peoples are unified under **Osei Tutu** on the "Gold Coast" (Ghana). The Empire dominates the gold-producing zones and exchanges slaves for firearms into the 1820's <sup>11</sup>
- Black men were valued at £ 35; Negro women at £ 30 and children at £ 10 in the Carolina Colony while free blacks settled in the state.
- 1702 John Lawson describes the topography of Rowan County as being of "a pleasant savanna ground, high and dry and having very few trees upon it, and those at a great distance." He also spent time with Sapona (Yadkin) Indians at Trading Ford on the Yadkin River
- 1703 The Vestry Act passes, requiring members of the General Assembly to be members of the Church of England and to take an oath of allegiance to Queen Anne. Subsequent governors and assemblymen ignore these requirements.
- 1709 Slaves professing Christianity were denied baptism.
- 1710 On June 8: Tuscarora Indians on the Roanoke and Tar-Pamlico Rivers send a petition to the government of Pennsylvania protesting the seizure of their lands and enslavement of their people by Carolina settlers.<sup>12</sup>
- 1711 War between the Tuscarora and European settlers erupts. After two years of fighting, the Tuscarora end the war, marking the last significant effort by eastern Indians to stop the wave of white settlers crowding them out of their land .
- 1712 There were only 800 slaves in the entire state of North Carolina when Hyde was appointed the Colonial Governor of North Carolina. Charles Eden was appointed colonial Governor two years later.
- 1715 Total African immigrant slave population in North Carolina was 3, 700. They were not permitted by a legislative act to intermarry with whites or vote.

Slavery received statutory recognition requiring all slaveholders to report the number of slaves as taxable property. This was also the first year slaves were tried in different courts than whites

The General Assembly enacts a law denying blacks and Indians the right to vote. The king will repeal the law in 1737. Some free African Americans continued to vote until disfranchisement in 1835.<sup>13</sup>

1720's The Dahomey Kingdom of Fon (or Aja), in the Bight of Benin, based its economically on slaving and firearms, rose and became the dominant state in the area of West Africa known as the "Slave Coast"<sup>14</sup>

Moravian Protestants fleeing the persecution of Ferdinand II settle in Rowan County in the region that will become Forsyth County.

1723 A large number of free Africans, mulattoes and other people of mixed blood entered the colony, several intermarried with whites against the law. Any slave set free in the colony was not allowed to remain longer than six months.

1730 Cherokee leaders visit London, confer with the king, and pledge friendship to the English. They agree to return runaway slaves and trade exclusively with the British.<sup>15</sup>

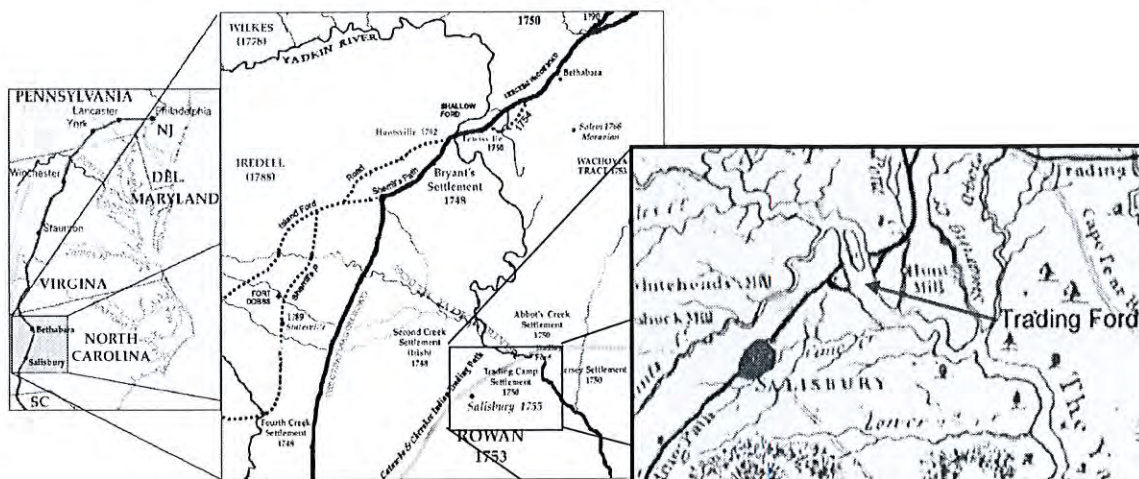
1731 Slaves were classified in terms of whether they were imported from Guinea, Africa or reared in North America. Those reared in North America could not be considered African immigrants.

1735 - 74

The "Great Wagon Road" beginning in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania passing through Virginia covered a distance of 435 miles to Salisbury. Known by several other names, it served as a conduit that filled Piedmont North Carolina with thousands of Ulster Scots (Scotch - Irish) and Palatinate German families.<sup>16</sup>

The "Catawba and Cherokee Trading Path" began in eastern Virginia, ran through Trading Ford near Salisbury, and connected as the Catawba and Waxhaw branches to the Great Wagon Road in present day South Carolina. It was the route used by General Cornwallis in his pursuit of General Greene near the end of the Revolutionary War in 1781.

### The Great Philadelphia Wagon Road, "Catawba and Cherokee Trading Path", and Trading Ford Circa 1770



- 1734** The First Great Awakening begins. African slaves converting to Christianity gains momentum when they were allowed to be baptized.
- 1739** September 9, Slaves revolted in Stono, S.C. killing 25 Whites before the insurrection was put down.  
Methodist Societies in and around London are established.
- 1741** An act concerning Christian servants and slaves passes. Anyone importing Africans who were free in any Christian country must return them to the countries of purchase with penalties.  
All but one slave was confined to the plantation. This slave was allowed a gun to hunt for his holder.  
In slave trials, other slaves could give evidence  
Slaves could not own livestock and cultivate land for themselves (Rountree)  
A statute was passed stipulating that no slave could be manumitted "upon any Pretence what so ever, except for meritorious Services, to be adjudged and allowed by the County Court, and license thereupon first had and obtained."<sup>17</sup>
- 1744** King George II gives Earl Granville territory between the Virginia Line in the north, the 35° 34' parallel of in the south, the Atlantic Ocean in the East, and Mississippi River in the west. <sup>18</sup>  
The Treaty of Lancaster was signed. It cleared the way for European settlers.
- 1747** The Ulster-Scots (Scotch-Irish) fleeing imprisonment and punishment for rebellions in their mother countries begin arriving in mass from Pennsylvania and Virginia. They brought slaves with them. <sup>19</sup>
- 1749** The first land grants in Rowan County are issued.
- 1752** Benjamin Franklin discovers electricity.  
Orange County is established.
- 1753** April 12, Acting Governor Matthew Rowan signed a bill establishing Rowan County and St. Luke's Parish from a part of Anson County.<sup>20</sup>  
Moravians from Pennsylvania purchase a 100,000-acre tract in present-day Forsyth County from Earl Granville. They name the area Wachovia, which means "peaceful valley." They establish the settlement of Bethabara in November.  
Lawmakers exclude slaves from service in the militia and establish a special constabulary, the searchers, to deal with armed slaves roaming about in "divers Parts of this Province."<sup>21</sup>

# SALISBURY AND ROWAN COUNTY HISTORY TIME LINE [1619 - 1753]

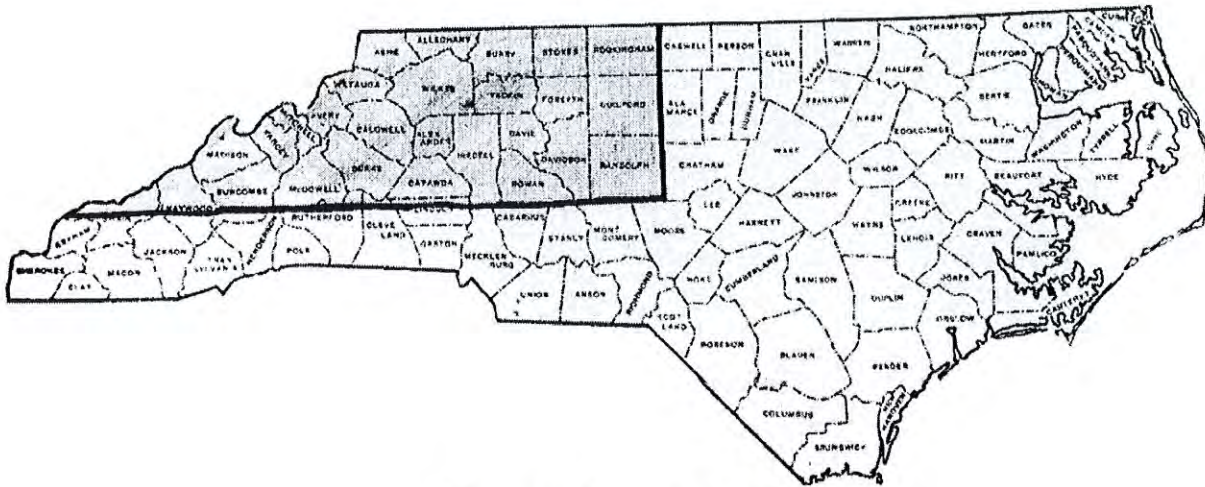
## Page 6

St. Luke's Episcopal Church is established

Thyatira Presbyterian Church is established 12 miles southeast of Salisbury.

The first Rowan County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions met in June at an unknown site. <sup>22</sup>

The French and Indian War affect Rowan settlers. <sup>23</sup>



Rowan County 1753

Assignment: "Rowan County...a brief history" Pg. 1-14  
Supplementary reading "Rowan Story pgs. 1-90

## NOTES

- 1 NC Museum of History. Historical Highlights of North Carolina.  
2 <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/NC/HISTORY/HISTORY.HTM>
- 3 Paul Griffin, Seeds of Racism, p. 11. ©2000
- 4 Ibid.
- 5 NC Museum of History: History Highlights-North Carolina Indian History Time  
6 Line <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/nchh/amerindian.html>
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- 9 Bennett, Lerone. Before the Mayflower
- 10 Brawley, James S. Rowan County: A Brief History. Raleigh, N.C.: North Carolina  
11 Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History,  
12 ©1977, p. 3.
- 13 Rountree, Louise Marie, Compiler. A Brief Chronological History of Black  
14 Salisbury-Rowan. Salisbury, N.C.: Livingstone College Bicentennial  
15 Committee, ©1976 Louise M. Rountree, p. 1
- 16 Brawley. Rowan County: A Brief History. ©1977, p. 2  
17 (ARM. Pg. 2 of 3)
- 18 Agatucci, Cora. African Timelines, History, Orature, Literature, & Film: Part III:  
19 African Empires AD/CE 15th - early 19th c. Central Oregon Community  
20 College: <http://www.cocc.edu/10/19/1999>, Pg. 1 of 9.
- 21 NC Museum of History: History Highlights-North Carolina Indian History Time  
22 Line <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/nchh/amerindian.html>
- 23 Ibid. <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/nchh/amerindian.html>
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12, 1993, p. 1E.
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© 1995, p. 68.
- See County Government: Historical Perspective  
<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/NC/CNTYOUT/PRECOUNT.HTM>)
- Brawley. Rowan County: A Brief History. ©1977, pp.9-10.

## ROWAN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA AFRICAN AMERICAN TIMELINE

1694

Enslaved blacks were imported into North Carolina<sup>1</sup>

1700

Black men were valued at £ 35 sterling; Negro women at £ 30 and children at £ 10 in the Carolina Colony while free blacks settled in the state.

1712

There were only 800 slaves in the entire state of North Carolina when Hyde was appointed the Colonial Governor of North Carolina. Charles Eden was appointed colonial Governor two years later

1715

Total African immigrant slave population in North Carolina was 3, 700.

Law/Gov. They were not permitted by a legislative act to intermarry with whites or vote.

Slavery received statutory recognition requiring all slaveholders to report the number of slaves as taxable property. This was also the first year slaves were tried in different courts than whites (Brewer' Rountree. P. 2)

Law/Gov The General Assembly enacts a law denying blacks and Indians the right to vote. The king will repeal the law in 1737. Some free African Americans will continue to vote until disfranchisement in 1835.<sup>2</sup>

1723

A large number of free Africans, mulattoes and other people of mixed blood entered the colony, several of which intermarried with the whites against the law.

Any slave set free in the colony was not allowed to remain longer than six months.

1733

Law/Gov. Apprenticeship was the only form of relief for free people of color. Before 1733 free people of color could be taken and pressed into an apprenticeship against their will.

1741

An act concerning Christian servants and slaves passes. Anyone importing

Law/Gov. Africans who were free in any Christian country must return them to the countries of purchase with penalties.

Slaves must remain on the plantation. One slave is allowed a gun to hunt for his holder.

In slave trials, other slaves could give evidence

Slaves could not own livestock and cultivate land for themselves.

Law/Gov. A legal statute was passed stipulating that no slave could be manumitted "upon any Pretence what so ever, except for meritorious Services, to be adjudged and allowed by the County Court, and license thereupon first had and obtained."<sup>3</sup>



## ROWAN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA IS ESTABLISHED



1754

The estimated population of North Carolina was 70,000. The 'Negroe' population estimate was 20,000 that represented 28.6% of the population.

1762

Apprentice Act of 1762 required slaveholders to teach colored apprentices to read and write.<sup>4</sup>

1774

August 8, ROWAN RESOLVES "... that African trade is injurious to this colony, obstructs the population of it by free men, prevents manufacturers and other useful immigrants from Europe from settling among us and occasions an increase of law balance of trade against the colonist; and that to be clothed in manufacture's fabrication, the colonies ought to be considered as a badge and distinction of respect and true patriotism."<sup>5</sup>

August 15, The ROWAN COUNTY COMMITTEE OF SAFETY recommended to the FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS that slavery be abolished.

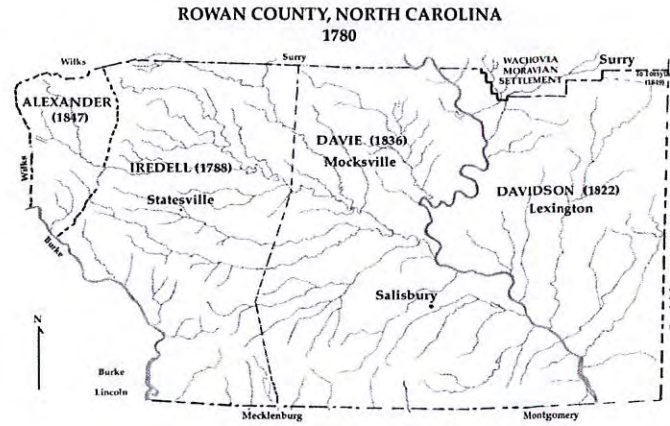
Law/Gov "An Act to Prevent the willful and malicious killing of slaves" was a law that stated that a person who willfully killed a slave should be imprisoned a

1776

Law/Gov July 4, THE SECOND CONTINENTAL CONGRESS adopts the Declaration of Independence, cutting ties with the American colonies and England; a passage condemning slavery written by Thomas Jefferson was dropped from the document at the insistence of Georgia and South Carolina delegates

1778

A list of blacks in the Continental army shows that 58 African Americans served in the NORTH CAROLINA BRIGADE. According to some historians, at times as much as one-tenth of George Washington's Continental army consisted of African American men. However, most served in the British army because of their initial reluctance to enlist slaves in the revolutionary army<sup>6</sup>



1781

Black soldiers participate in the defeat of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

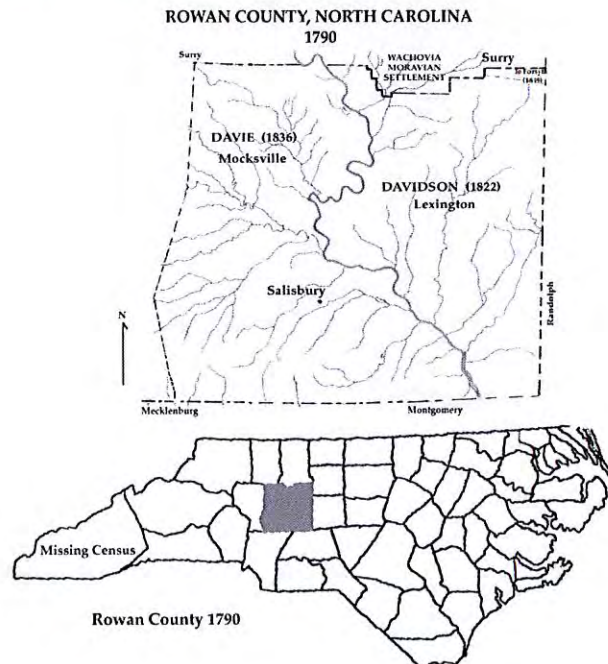
1787

The delegates in Philadelphia approve the U. S. CONSTITUTION that contained three clauses protecting the institution of slavery. One of those clauses was the "Three-Fifths Compromise" supported by North Carolina. Five slaves would count as three free males giving the South greater representation

1790

THE FIRST UNITED STATES CENSUS IS TAKEN.

The total population of North Carolina is 395,005 with 14,973 families holding 100,783 slaves that represented 25.5% of the state's inhabitants. The total population of Rowan County is 15,972 with 432 families holding 1,741 slaves who account for 11% of the population. Rowan County consists of present day Davie, Davidson, and Rowan Counties.



1791

THE BILL OF RIGHTS IS ADOPTED.

1794

January: Superior Court Judge Spruce Macay acquired the Frohock Mill Plantation that was part of 2601 acres for the sum of 2,500 £. The acquisition included 38 slaves for 1000 £. Judge Macay was executor of the Frohock estate.<sup>7</sup>

1798

Law/Gov The North Carolina Assembly passed "An act to compel owners of infirmed slaves to support them." The lawmakers were concerned about some slaves being driven off by their holders when they became unproductive.<sup>8</sup>

1800

The Second Federal Census shows an African American population exceeding 1,000,000.

Census

The total population of North Carolina is 478,103 of which 133,296 are slaves. The total population of Rowan County is 20,060 of which 2,839 are slaves who account for 14% of the inhabitants. There were 35 free blacks.<sup>9</sup>

1802

Law/Gov The Insurrection Act of 1802 is passed to modify a 1794 legislative act that created a slave patrol system giving power to the county courts to appoint patrolmen to monitor roads for runaways or slaves without a pass.<sup>10</sup>

## THE NORTH AMERICAN ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE ENDS OFFICIALY

1808

Law/Gov Congress prohibits the American importation of slaves from Africa. African slaves are brought into the United States illegally from the date of prohibition.

1810

The Third Federal Census shows a total population of 7,239,881.

Census

The population of N.C. was 555,500 with 168,824 slaves representing 30.3% of the state's inhabitants.

The population of Rowan County was 21,543 with 3,757 slaves who were 17% of the population.<sup>11</sup>

Harry Cowan the slave of Thomas Lincoln Cowan was born. Harry was granted permission to preach, marry, baptize, and use the four Cowan plantations as a field for his ministry. He established 49 Baptist churches in North Carolina after the Civil War.

1812

Tony the property of Ephraim Hampton and Jacob the property of Jane Felps were charged and found guilty of *confederating and conspiring with others to kill the good citizens of Rowan County*.<sup>12</sup>

1816

Thomas Innes A free person of color, aged eight, was apprenticed as a cabinetmaker to Lewis Utzman of Rowan County.<sup>13</sup>

1818

Law/Gov North Carolina makes it illegal to teach slaves to read and write. Teaching slaves to use figures was allowed. <sup>14</sup>

1819

law/gov. Congress authorizes the president to send armed vessels to Africa to suppress the African slave trade to the United States

William Kent, a free person of color, was apprenticed as a house carpenter to Samuel Lemly of Rowan County.<sup>15</sup>

1820

The Fourth United States Census is taken.

Census The population of North Carolina is 638,829 of which 205,017 are slaves representing 32% of the states inhabitants

The population of Rowan County is 26,009 of which 5,381 are slaves representing 21% of the county's inhabitants.

The demographic breakdown of Salisbury was: 743 Whites, 477 slaves, and 14 free colored.<sup>16</sup> Slaves represented 38.7% of the town's inhabitants.

The Missouri Compromise goes into effect, banning slavery in the territories north of latitude 36°30'.

1824

Samuel Kent, a free person of color, was apprenticed as a carpenter to Samuel Lenny of Rowan County.<sup>17</sup>

1825

Law/Gov August: Power is granted to The Rowan County Court to establish regulations for the governance of patrols to control the conduct and movement of slaves. Patrollers received power to issue corporal punishment or hold any 'negro' slave until presented to a magistrate. <sup>18</sup>

Joseph Ballard the slave of Miss Margaret Ballard was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He was freed during the Emancipation and became a politician, blacksmith, teamster, and philosopher.

1826

Law The North Carolina General Assembly passes a law forbidding the migration of free blacks into the state.

1827

**Britain declares slave-trading piracy, thus punishable by death.**

Slavery is abolished in New York State, freeing 10,000 people.

Law/Gov A North Carolina state bill to repeal much of an act passed in 1762 that required slave holders to teach or encourage the teaching of colored apprentices to read and write was postponed indefinitely by a motion.

1829

A free black from North Carolina, David Walker writes *Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World*; as a result free blacks and slaves were attacked through legal means. North Carolina implemented stiff penalties for dismantling anti-slavery materials, and created quarantine laws for any ships carrying free blacks.

1830

The Fifth Federal Census is taken after Davidson County is formed from Rowan in 1822.

Census The population of North Carolina is 737, 987 of which 245, 601 are slaves. The population of Rowan County is 20,786 of which 6,189 are slaves representing 30% of the population.

Emancipated North Carolina slaves must leave the state in ninety days

1831

May: Bishop James Walker Hood a founding trustee of Livingstone College was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania. He arrived in New Bern, North Carolina in 1864 as a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and established the North Carolina Conference from emancipated slaves.

Rev. Hood was active in state before becoming the 17<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the A.M.E. Zion church. In 1868 he participated in the state constitutional convention and contributed to placing homestead and public school provisions in the constitution. The 1868 North Carolina Constitution also restructured state governance by establishing universal male suffrage, county township form of local government, abolishing property qualifications for voting and office holding, strengthening the executive branch of government by popular election for four year terms, etc.<sup>19</sup>

Nat Turner leads a revolt in Southampton County, Va. killing Some 57 whites. He was captured and hanged in Jerusalem, VA.

Law/Gov The North Carolina General Assembly passes a law forbidding African American preachers to speak at worship services where slaves from different owners are in attendance, and forbidding anyone to teach African Americans to read and write.

1832

A bill fails to pass that gave power to County Courts to grant preachers licenses to slaves and free blacks.

1840

THE SIXTH FEDERAL CENSUS IS TAKEN AFTER DAVIE SEPARATES FROM ROWAN COUNTY.

Census The population of North Carolina is 753, 419 of which 245, 817 are slaves. The population of Rowan County is 12,109 of which 3,365 are slaves representing 28% of the population. There were 135 free persons of color.<sup>20</sup>

The General Assembly passes a law prohibiting people of color from owning or carrying weapons without obtaining a license.

1850

THE SEVENTH FEDERAL CENSUS IS TAKEN.

Census The U. S. African American population stands at 3,636,508 ( 15,7% of the total U.S. population)

The population of North Carolina is 869,039 of which 288,548 are slaves.

The population of Rowan County is 13,870 of which 3,854 are slaves representing 28% of the population. There are 115 free 'negroes'.<sup>21</sup>

Law/Gov The federal Fugitive Slave Law goes into effect, giving slave catchers broad powers and imposing harsh penalties on anyone aiding escapees.

1852

*Construction begins on the Salisbury and Taylorsville Plank Road at the present day corner of Ellis and West Horah Streets. It ran through present day Livingstone College and out to what is now Old Wilksboro Road. The road was never completed.*

**1854**

**Law/Gov** The provisions of the Missouri Compromise forbidding slavery in the former Louisiana Territory north of the parallel 36°30' north were repealed by the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854.

Maxwell Chambers, a prominent landowner, freed 18 of his slaves and provided funds for their relocation in Oberlin, Ohio after his death

**1855**

Wilson Smithers, a free boy of color, was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade.

**1857**

**Law/Gov** The United States Supreme Court rules in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* that escaped slaves cannot sue for freedom and that Congress has no authority to prohibit slavery in the territories.

Hinton Rowan Helper of Rowan County writes, "The Impending Crisis of the South: How to Meet It". The book indicted slavery as an economic disaster and maintained that the South was bankrupt from supporting an obsolete system that could not compete with free white labor. <sup>22</sup>

Rev. George D. Armstrong, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Norfolk, VA, publishes *The Christian Doctrine of Slavery* to justify slavery<sup>23</sup>

**1858**

William Valentine, a barber and a free man of color, purchases the house at 224 East Bank Street at the estate sale of Horace Beard. The entrance gate to the Confederate States Military Prison was located across the tracks from this dwelling.

**1860**

**Eighth Federal Census is taken.**

**Census** The population of North Carolina is 992,622 of which 231,050 are slaves bonded to 34,668 slaveholders. There were 30,463 free people of color  
The population of Rowan County is 14,589 of which 4,000 are slaves representing 28% of the population bonded to 520 slave holders.  
Salisbury's population is 2,400 half of which is black. <sup>24</sup>

**October: Plymouth, North Carolina was the last slave revolt before the war.**

Abraham Lincoln is elected the 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States in November. He opposed the expansion of slavery in the territories and supported taxes on imported goods. He received no votes from North Carolina or any other state seceding from the Union.

Rowan County supported the Constitutional Unionist Party that allied itself with the state peace party that opposed the Confederate party who favored secession and war. Rowan County had no interest in States' rights, slavery, tariff, sovereignty, Southern nationalism, or Black Republicanism<sup>25</sup> but

joined the Confederacy with North Carolina in 1861 and fought for the county and southern cause.

1861

Kansas becomes a state.

North Carolina lawmakers bar any black person from owning or controlling a slave, making it impossible for a free person of color to buy freedom for a family member or friend.

1862

March 13, The United States Army is prohibited from Returning Fugitive slaves<sup>26</sup>

Law/Gov July 17, Lincoln signs the Militia Act authorizing enrollment of blacks in the war effort

Law/Gov July 22, The Dix Hill Cartel of July 22 1862 was agreed upon by the Union and the Confederacy. It was a provision that prisoners be paroled within 10 days of their capture, which lessened the need of prisons.<sup>27</sup>

October 23, Prisoner exchanges stipulated by the Dix Hill Cartel between the Union and Confederacy were suspended. The Confederate Congress resolved that all *Negroes*, free and slave, should be delivered to their respective states "to be dealt with according to the present and future laws of such State or States". A letter to General Beauregard from James Seddon, Jefferson Davis's Secretary of War, stated that "Slaves in flagrant rebellion are subject to death by the laws of every slave-holding State" but that "to guard, however, against possible abuse...the order of execution should be reposed in the general commanding the special locality of the capture."<sup>28</sup> The return of former slaves to their holders and the surrender of freedmen for confinement and hard labor was requested

Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy issues a proclamation to execute both Negroes taken in arms and their white officers that was never implemented. It returned captured black union soldiers to slavery instead.<sup>29</sup>

1863

January 1, The Emancipation Proclamation takes effect, freeing all slaves in Confederate-held territories. President Lincoln authorizes the use of African Americans in combat.<sup>30</sup>

Slaves June, Francis Shober, a Salisbury attorney and later a congressman, wrote Gov. Zebulon Vance concerning state authorities not allowing Rowan County slaves to return from two months of impressed wartime work duty in Wilmington. Harvest time was rapidly approaching

The 35<sup>th</sup>, 36<sup>th</sup>, and 37<sup>th</sup> NC US Colored Infantries and the 14<sup>th</sup> NC US Colored Heavy Artillery are organized.

1864

Congress repeals Fugitive Slave Laws and grants black Union troops equal pay with whites in a segregated army.

April 12, Confederate forces under Major General Nathan Bedford Forrest massacred black Union soldiers at Fort Pillow, TN. In response, President Abraham Lincoln demanded that black prisoners of war be treated the same as their white comrades. This was refused by Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

April 17, Union General Ulysses S. Grant orders to halt prison exchanges until the Confederates recognize *the validity of the paroles of the prisoners captured at Vicksburg and Port Hudson*, and stop discrimination against *colored soldiers*.<sup>31</sup>

June Confederate Secretary of War Seddon refuses the Union demand that the treatment of black Union Troops be identical to whites.

August 14, *Tom Hawkins and Littleton Disbron who were Maryland slaves*<sup>32</sup> become the first Black Union soldiers confined in the Salisbury Prison. Hawkins was the slave of Charles Hodges, Anne Arundel County and Disbron was the slave of John Gunby, Somerset County. They were brought from Danville, Virginia<sup>33</sup>, treated as regular war prisoners and not returned to their owners because Maryland was not a Confederate state.

November 1, Maryland abolishes slavery by ordinance

Late November, Three hundred African American Union prisoners were reported as being held at the Salisbury Prison. The majority were fugitive slaves with 34 Black prisoners listed as being captured in arms.<sup>34</sup>

December 17, Benjamin F. Booth, a captured news reporter who escaped from the Salisbury Prison, wrote, *"The colored prisoners are fast disappearing, death cutting them down every day. They are a pitiful lot to behold. Their sufferings are even more intense than the suffering of the white soldiers. All ambition to live seems to have died out in them. They become so despondent that they tumble down almost anywhere, give up the struggle, and die."*<sup>35</sup>



1865

*("Forty Acres and a Mule")*

Law/Gov January 12, William T. Sherman issues *Special Field Order Number 15* that sets aside 40 acres of land for the exclusive use of each free slave on a coastal strip of land from Charleston, South Carolina to Jacksonville, Florida. Mules were loaned. Sherman's Memoirs, [2:245-52].<sup>36</sup>

January 31, The number of 'Negro' POWs in the Salisbury Prison dwindled to 120. Sixty-nine were sent to Camp Maxcy Gregg, near Columbia, South Carolina. In the list of deaths occurring in the prison a total of 45 Negroes are listed and 19 were sent out with the exchange group. There were 34 captured in arms with no report of their leaving.<sup>37</sup>

Law/Gov February, The Confederate Congress, after months of stalling, passed an act allowing black enlistments. Virginia immediately started enlisting slaves to fight for the Confederacy.

February 1 - 15, Food and wood is delivered to the Salisbury Prison.<sup>38</sup>

February 22, Prisoners, except those too weak or lame for transfer, are evacuated from the Salisbury prison.<sup>39</sup> The evacuation resumed with the reinstatement of the Prison exchange agreement between the Union and the Confederacy.

March 3, The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands (Freedmen's Bureau was established in the War Department by an act of Congress (12 Stat. 507)

March 13, The Confederate Congress passed an act allowing the enlistment of slaves into the Army. Each state was to enroll 300,000 slaves.<sup>40</sup>

April 9, General Robert E. Lee Surrenders to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court house, Virginia.

April 12, Wednesday *The Battle of Salisbury*

Major General George Stoneman's Calvary captures Salisbury, North Carolina and burns government shops, the foundry, steam distillery, arsenal, ordinance store and the prison<sup>41</sup>

APRIL 14, ABRAHAM LINCOLN IS ASSASSINATED, and is succeeded by Andrew Johnson.

April 26, General Joseph Johnston surrenders to General William Sherman near Durham, NC.

May: A two-year occupation by Federal troops begins under the command of Colonel Charles Butterfield of the 91<sup>st</sup> Indiana Volunteer Infantry.<sup>42</sup>

October: A North Carolina convention votes to repeal the Ordinance of Secession and end slavery.

August 9, The Freedmen's Bureau's educational activities in North Carolina begins with the appointment of F. A. Fiske as superintendent of schools (Special Orders Number 21). He acts as an intermediary between freedmen and the benevolent societies that provided teachers and aid for schools.

Captain Charles Emery serves as the Assistant superintendent of the Freedmen's Bureau for the Western North Carolina District headquartered in Salisbury. He was in charge of Freedmen's Camps and hospitals and the relocation of ex slaves with their families in the deep south.

December, Philadelphia Friends' establish a school in Salisbury with four teachers.<sup>43</sup>

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